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the construction of a vessel, shall include a complete inspection of the structure, including the outside of the vessel's bottom, the machinery, unfired pressure vessels, equipment and the inside and outside of the boilers. The inspection shall be such as to insure that the arrangements, material, and scantlings of the structure, boilers and other pressure vessels and their appurtenances, piping, main and auxiliary machinery, electrical installations, lifesaving appliances, fire-detecting and extinguishing equipment, pilot boarding equipment and other equipment fully comply with the applicable regulations for such vessel and are in accordance with approved plans, and determine that the vessel is in possession of a valid certificate issued by the Federal Communications Commission, if any. The inspection shall be such as to ensure that the workmanship of all parts of the vessel and its equipment is in all respects satisfactory and that the vessel is provided with lights, means of making sound signals, and distress signals as required by applicable statutes and regulations.

[CGFR 65-50, 30 FR 16662, Dec. 30, 1965, as amended by CGFR 68-32, 33 FR 5712, Apr. 12, 1968; CGFR 68-82, 33 FR 18804, Dec. 18, 1968; CGD 82-036, 48 FR 654, Jan. 6, 1983; CGD 79-032, 49 FR 25455, June 21, 1984; CGD 95-012, 60 FR 48049, Sept. 18, 1995]

### §31.01-10 Authority of marine inspectors—TB/ALL.

Inspectors may at any time lawfully inspect any tank vessel.

### §31.01-15 Application for a Certificate of inspection—TB/ALL.

(a) You must submit a written application for an inspection for certification to the cognizant OCMI. To renew a Certificate of Inspection, you must submit an application at least 30 days before the expiration of the tank vessel's current Certificate of Inspection. When renewing a Certificate of Inspection, you must schedule an inspection for certification within the 3 months before the expiration date of the current Certificate of Inspection.

(b) The application should be on Form CG-3752, Application for Inspection of U.S. Vessel, which requires information on name and type of vessel,

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nature of employment and route in which to be operated, grade or type of cargo to be carried, place where and date when the vessel may be inspected, and that no other application has been made to any Officer in Charge, Marine Inspection, since the issuance of the last valid certificate of inspection.

[CGFR 65-50, 30 FR 16662, Dec. 30, 1965, as amended by USCG-1999-4976, 65 FR 6499, Feb. 9, 2000]

### §31.01-20 Application for inspection of a new tank vessel or conversion of a vessel to a tank vessel—TB/ALL.

Prior to the commencement of the construction of any new tank vessel, or prior to the commencement of the conversion of any vessel to a tank vessel, application for the approval of contract plans and specifications and for a certificate of inspection shall be made in writing to the Coast Guard and no such construction or conversion shall be proceeded with until such approval is granted. (See §31.10-1.)

## Subpart 31.05—Certificates of Inspection

### §31.05-1 Issuance of certificate of inspection—TB/ALL.

(a) When a tank vessel is found to comply with all applicable regulations, including the applicable provisions of subchapters E, F, J, O, Q, S, and W of this chapter and of 33 CFR parts 104, 155, and 157, the Officer in Charge, Marine Inspection will issue a certificate of inspection to the vessel or to its owners.

(b) Certificates of inspection for tank vessels shall be similar in form to certificates issued to other cargo vessels, and in addition to the manning requirements and waters over which they may be operated, they shall be appropriately endorsed *Inspected and approved for the carriage of flammable or combustible liquids of Grade A, B, C, D, or E* (as the case may be), and such endorsement shall serve as a permit for such vessel to operate. The endorsement for the carriage of liquefied flammable gases is set forth in §38.01-5 of this subchapter.

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(c) The certificate of inspection shall be delivered to the master or owner of the tank vessel to which it relates.

[CGFR 65-50, 30 FR 16662, Dec. 30, 1965, as amended by CGD 73-96, 42 FR 49024, Sept. 26, 1977; CGD 79-023, 48 FR 51006, Nov. 4, 1983; CGD 84-069, 61 FR 25286, May 20, 1996; USCG-2003-14749, 68 FR 39314, July 1, 2003]

### §31.05-5 Posting the certificate of inspection—TB/ALL.

The certificate of inspection shall be framed under glass and posted in a conspicuous part of the vessel, except that where it is not practicable to so expose the certificate of inspection it shall be carried in the vessel in such manner as authorized by the Officer in Charge, Marine Inspection.

### §31.05-10 Period of validity for a Certificate of Inspection—TB/ALL.

(a) A Certificate of Inspection is valid for 5 years.

(b) Application may be made by the master, owner, or agent for inspection and issuance of a new certificate of inspection at any time during the period of validity of the current certificate.

(c) Certificates of inspection may be revoked or suspended by the Coast Guard where such process is authorized by law. This may occur if the vessel does not meet the requirements of law or regulations in this chapter or if there is a failure to maintain the safety requirements requisite to the issuance of a certificate of inspection.

[CGFR 68-82, 33 FR 18804, Dec. 18, 1968, as amended by CGD 95-012, 60 FR 48049, Sept. 18, 1995; USCG-1999-4976, 65 FR 6499, Feb. 9, 2000]

### §31.05-15 Certificate of inspection; terms; endorsements—TB/ALL.

The terms, endorsements and conditions set forth on a certificate of inspection shall have the same force and effect as the regulations contained in this subchapter.

## Subpart 31.10—Inspections

### §31.10-1 Recognized classification society—TB/ALL.

(a) In the inspection of hulls, boilers, and machinery, the current standards established by the American Bureau of Shipping and designated *Rules for Building and Classing Steel Vessels* re-

specting material and construction of hulls, boilers, and machinery, except as otherwise provided for by law and regulations in this chapter, shall be accepted as standard by the Coast Guard.

(b) The current standards established by the American Bureau of Shipping in effect at the time of construction of the vessel, or otherwise as applicable, shall be used. The book *Rules for Building and Classing Steel Vessels* is usually published annually and may be purchased from the American Bureau of Shipping, ABS Plaza, 16855 Northchase Drive, Houston, TX 77060. These standards may be also examined at the office of the Commandant (G-M), U.S. Coast Guard, Washington, DC 20593-0001, or at the office of any Coast Guard District Commander or Officer in Charge, Marine Inspection.

(c) The approved plans and certificate of the American Bureau of Shipping, or other recognized classification society for classed vessels, may be accepted by the Coast Guard as evidence of the structural efficiency of the hull and reliability of machinery of vessels subject to the regulations in this subchapter, except as otherwise provided for by laws and regulations in this chapter.

[CGFR 65-50, 30 FR 16662, Dec. 30, 1965, as amended by CGFR 68-32, 33 FR 5712, Apr. 12, 1968; CGD 88-070, 53 FR 34533, Sept. 7, 1988; 53 FR 37570, Sept. 27, 1988; 53 FR 44011, Nov. 1, 1988; CGD 95-072, 60 FR 50461, Sept. 29, 1995; USCG-2000-7790, 65 FR 58459, Sept. 29, 2000]

### §31.10-5 Inspection of new tank vessels—TB/ALL.

(a) *Plans.* Triplicate copies of contract plans and specifications shall be forwarded to the Officer in Charge, Marine Inspection, in whose district the construction will take place, for submission to the Marine Safety Center, 400 7th Street, SW., Washington, DC 20590-0001 for approval, but if the tank vessel is to be classed, such plans and specifications shall first be approved by a recognized classification society. If the plans and specifications are found to be in substantial agreement with the regulations in this chapter, they shall be approved, properly stamped and dated and distributed as follows: One set to owner or builder;